

St Mary's School, Mosgiel Newsletter



Mission Statement—**St Mary's is a Catholic School dedicated** to the provision of the highest quality primary education with a special emphasis of Catholic values and attitudes.

Phone: 03 489-7716 Fax: 03 489-0991
E-mail: office@stmarys-mosgiel.school.nz
www.stmarys-mosgiel.school.nz

Term 4 Week 2

1st November 2011

62 Church Street, Mosgiel, Dunedin 9024

Dear Parents, Caregivers and Friends of St Mary's School,

Last week I had the privilege of accompanying Room Seven on their annual camp.

This year it was a summer camp so the camp was held at Camp Columba in Pukerau.

Firstly thank you to Mrs Baines for organizing an excellent camp, and thank you also to the great group of parents who supported this camp, Mesdames Janine Will and Bridget Hall and Messer's Gary Hayward, Lindsay Burns and James Crooks. Without the help of these people giving up their time, important activities like camp would not be able to take place.

Outdoor education has unfortunately become an aspect of education that not all schools now endorse. As with all adventure based activities there is an element of risk, but there are risks attached to all activities. Scootering, results in many times more injuries than we have ever had on camp, as J.R.R. Tolkien wrote in the Hobbit "when you take a step outside your front door you begin an adventure".

Abseiling or rock climbing or completing the high ropes course themselves are not crucial towards achieving in life, few, if any of us will regularly use these skills and fewer of us will make a career of utilizing them.

But what they do, is enable us to set and overcome challenges, they develop our feeling of self esteem and courage. They show us how to concentrate in situations that we are not used to.

As I watched a young person stand at the bottom of the abseiling wall or the top of the abseiling cliff and look up or down—I could see them think I don't know if I can do this? So when they did achieve this goal they felt they had proven something not to others but most importantly to themselves.

That is the value of outdoor education, it offers another dimension to our lives that dissuades us from the sedentary but also teaches us skills that show life isn't a spectator sport, it's about being fully involved.

**Have a great week,
Mike Brosnahan**

Senior Camp 2011



Our Vision : Confident, reflective, risk-taking, lifelong learners in a Catholic School.

School Fair This Sunday!

Please read the separate Fair notice, it has times to drop off baking/plants/craft etc Friday 3pm or Saturday 1-3pm.

-Desserts from 9am Sunday.

Raffle Cards are due back now, please return to school by tomorrow to save us time in having to phone and remind people.

Helpers—If you are able to help please contact Rachel Morris 489 4103, many hands make light work!

Alter Servers Sunday 6th November
Thomas Kelly

Congratulations to Lindsay Stevens who has gained her certificate in Religious Education at classroom level from the National Centre for Religious Studies.

A big thank you the following children from our school who lead the singing at Mass on Sunday:
Thomas Kelly, Lorie Parker, Sam & Sarah O'Neill,
Caitlyn Anderton, Sarah Hall, Blythe and Lewis Middleton.

Beginners Guitar Class

This Thursday's lesson No 3 will have to be postponed as teachers have a meeting after school. The lesson will be made up.
Sorry about this, Mrs Dillon.

Looking Ahead Term 4

November

6th School Fair

8th Athletics Day—Postponement Day 9th
See separate notice for details.

9th First reconciliation Parent Meeting, Parish Centre 7pm

9th BOT Meeting 7.30pm

18th Assembly—Room 7 (Camp)

21st—1st Dec Senior Swimming

22nd Otago Athletics Champs—qualifiers only
December

7/8th School Production

13th First Reconciliation

15th Final Mass

Uniform Reminder

At St Mary's we have a uniform to be proud of. Please ensure that your child comes to school in the correct uniform.

This includes the correct footwear—black or brown leather shoes, optional Terms 1 and 4, black or brown leather sandals.

Sunhats - school policy states all pupils are required to wear a royal blue sunhat (Bucket or Aussie style) during Terms 1 and 4 while at School. These can be purchased from Postie Plus or The Warehouse.

If your child is coming to school out of uniform due to repair etc please ensure that they present a signed note to their teacher.

Condolences

Please remember in your thoughts and prayers the Sutherland family in this time of great sadness **with the recent death of Christine's mother,** Michaela and James Grandmother.

This loss of a mother, mother in law and grandmother is always a sad time but please remember that we as a community are here to support you.

School Photos

You should have received your child's school photos by now, please send the orders back to the school office by **next Thursday**.

Art Work Calendars/Cards and Diaries

Once again the children and teachers are busy working on Artwork for either Calendars \$9, Greeting Cards \$10 a pack of 8, or new this year, Diaries \$14.

Samples are on display at the school office. Order forms will go home next week, and we will need the orders in by Friday 25th November.

A thought for the week...

Excellence is to do a common thing in an uncommon way.

Brooker T Washington